Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" May I know, Sir, how many officers are intended to be appointed there and how it will affect the strength of Police officers in the ordinary line? "

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" All this has been stated in the note that has been placed in the Legislative Council Library."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know, Sir, whether the present officers have had no military training? "

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" They might have had. That does not alter the situation."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know if these officers are going to be recruited from officers in active military service or from retired Military officers? "

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" The whole question is now the subject of correspondence between this Government and the Government of India."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know, Sir, whether they are going to be Indian officers or non-Indian officers—I mean those that are going to be in charge of this special Police? "

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" I have nothing to add, Sir, to what I have already stated."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I say, Sir, if the hon. the Home Member assumes that attitude of not taking this Council into confidence, it will not be very helpful? Are we to be satisfied with these unenlightening answers, Sir? "

The hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN :—" May I say again, Sir, that the whole note on the subject has been placed before the Finance Committee which passed the scheme. That note is now in the Legislative Council Library. My hon. Friend has only to read it to obtain full information. This shows that the Government have taken the Council into their confidence. This note, as I said, was first placed before the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee passed the scheme. As a result of it, some items were included in the budget which this Council passed. So the Council has put its seal of approval on the policy of Government relating to this matter."

Forests

Representation of the Catholic Association of South Kanara regarding forest concessions.

* 3 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Catholic Association of South Kanara have represented to the Government the necessity for suspending the order cancelling the concessions granted to villagers in reserve forests including Hosabettu and Todar; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered this representation and taken any action in regard to it?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The representation was carefully considered but no action was thought necessary.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, the grounds on which the Government have come to the decision that no action is necessary in the matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" This decision was arrived at after careful consideration, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" It is just the answer given here, Sir. May I know the grounds on which the Government have based their order? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Government think that the people are abusing the privileges granted to them."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that, because the hardships of the people were real, the concessions were granted some time back? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" At the time the privileges were granted, it was specifically stated that if they were abused, they would be withdrawn."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Is much harm done by the abuse, Sir? Has it been found that the abuse has resulted in much harm? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The abuse will lead to the total destruction of the forests. That is the only harm."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government have made any independent enquiry regarding the reports received about the abuse of concessions? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Collector was asked to give his opinion in addition to the reports of the departmental officers."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Is the hon. Member aware that there is considerable discontent throughout the district in regard to this matter and that it is felt that the harm done is very slight and not proportionate to the very drastic step that has been taken by the Government? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Government know that the harm done is very great. As for the discontent in the district, my friend knows more about it than the Government."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government will be prepared to make further investigation in this matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am afraid not at present."